

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A process for producing a golf ball comprising:
 - a first step wherein a half shell is generally hemispherical half shells are formed comprising a thermoplastic resin composition, the half shells having a bowl-like shape, and having a central part surrounded by a side part, the thickness of the top central part being less than the thickness of the side part;
 - a second step wherein two pieces of said half shell and a core covered by two of said half shells are placed into a mold comprising an upper portion and a lower portion confronting portions both of which having a semi hemispherical cavity, in a state an open state of said mold opened;
 - a third step wherein said mold is clamped, bringing said confronting portions together to form a spherical cavity; and
 - a fourth step wherein a thermoplastic resin composition is compressed while being heated in the spherical cavity formed by the clamping, resulting in outflow of the excess thermoplastic resin composition from the spherical cavity that cannot be accommodated by the volume of the spherical cavity, to form a cover having the nominal thickness of 0.3 mm or greater and 1.0 mm or less with remained thermoplastic resin composition remaining in the spherical cavity.
2. (currently amended) The process for producing a golf ball according to claim 1 wherein the difference (Ts - Tt) between the thickness Ts of the side part and the thickness Tt of the top central part of the half shell shells formed in said first step is 0.02 mm or greater and 0.30 mm or less.
3. (original) The process for producing a golf ball according to claim 1 wherein the volume of the thermoplastic resin composition of the two half shells placed into said second step is set to be 105% or greater and 120% or less of the volume of the cover.

4. (original) The process for producing a golf ball according to claim 1 wherein said fourth step comprises a low pressurizing step in which the thermoplastic resin composition is compressed at a pressure of 5 kgf/cm² or greater and 75 kgf/cm² or less, and a high pressurizing step in which the thermoplastic resin composition is compressed at a pressure of 100 kgf/cm² or greater and 250 kgf/cm² or less.